

workers are paying for the benefits of today's retirees, by the year 2032 there will not be enough people paying into the system to pay for those who should receive the Social Security payments. At that point, payroll taxes will only generate approximately 75 percent of the revenues needed to pay for the benefits of those current retirees.

Before we reach this critical point, Congress must be willing to carefully examine the issues surrounding the Social Security system and take corrective action. Until such action is taken, nothing should be removed from the Social Security Trust Fund.

This year some have suggested that we have a budget surplus. That just simply is not so. Excluding the Social Security Trust Fund, there is a \$137 billion deficit in the next 5 years. We will not have a surplus for another 10 years, and then it is only \$31 billion, and that is assuming a good economy.

Of course there is an enormous temptation to spend this so-called surplus. We should cut taxes. But we should resist the temptation to rob the Social Security Trust Fund. We must not rob our children's future.

While Social Security is sound today, we in Congress have a responsibility to worry about tomorrow. We must ensure that Social Security will continue to provide the benefits promised to those who have paid into the system. No one should have to worry that one day Social Security will not be there for them. Our children and our grandchildren deserve to know that Social Security will be there when they need it.

We must save Social Security first.

IN SUPPORT OF A NATIONAL DIALOGUE IN INDONESIA REGARDING IRIAN JAYA/WEST PAPUA, NEW GUINEA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform our colleagues and the Nation of important developments in Indonesia concerning the people of West Papua, New Guinea, or commonly known as Irian Jaya, as it is known by the Indonesia Government.

If you recall, Mr. Speaker, I have spoken on the floor before about Jakarta's brutal subjugation of the West Papuan people and their decades-long struggle for independence from Indonesia.

Today I welcome the announcement of a significant development in the Indonesian Government's position on West Papua, as described in an article that appeared in the Indonesian language daily newspaper, Suara Pembaruan, on Sunday, September 13, 1998, and I include this newspaper article in the RECORD.

The article referred to is as follows:

[Translation—occasionally impossible to read newspaper clipping print]

PRESIDENT HABIBIE AGREES TO CONDUCT NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON IRIAN JAYA

President B.J. Habibie listened carefully and with full attention to reports of human rights violations which have occurred in Irian Jaya during a meeting with the Reverend Karel Phil Eran on the evening of Friday 11 September at the Palace.

Karel Phil Eran is the Secretary of the National Development for Irian Jaya and a member of the Pastoral Team of the Council of Churches in Indonesia who was on a pastoral mission to Irian Jaya (IrJa) after several demonstrations and actions which have resulted in fatal incidents and wounded victims during 11-18 August 1998.

In his discussion with Pembaruan on Saturday morning, Eran stated President Habibie as declaring that in the current reformation era killings cannot happen unless forced by the direct circumstances. Because of that a new approach must be held with regard to development plans in IrJa.

During the meeting which lasted more than an hour, Eran presented to the Head of the Nation that the people of Irian Jaya in the particular region have been extremely wounded by incidents of human rights violations which have been perpetrated by security forces there. This has resulted in the people's desire to separate themselves from Indonesia.

President Habibie stated his agreement to conduct a national dialogue with regard to Irian Jaya in the shortest time. At the Dialogue the people's voices may be heard and an honest examination regarding what actually happened can be understood together.

President Habibie also affirmed that the church is given equal rights in all development programs in the region. The role of the church in the building of the community must be given attention, said Eran in quoting the President. The President also stated that there cannot be any discrimination in all sectors especially since the Church in Irian Jaya is a pioneer in development efforts as evidenced throughout history. Meaning, that even long time before Irian Jaya became part of Indonesia, the Church especially was the pioneering force for regional development here.

The President was very open; he received me not as an Irian expert but as a friend from the intellectual community which is much needed by the people, said Eran. Habibie also offered to Eran to become a member of the National Reconciliation Team which can facilitate problems of Irian. He asked >>>>S. Panjaitan to organize an informal meeting to follow up on the discussions. At the end of the meeting Pastor Eran prayed for President Habibie asking for grace and wisdom in facing the problems of this nation.

THE NEED FOR DIALOGUE TO DISCOVER THE ROOTS OF THE PROBLEMS OF IRIAN JAYA

To present the various intense problems which are happening in Irian Jaya a forum for dialogue must be organized to discuss and discover the best solutions for the future of Irian.

At the minimum there are three important agendas which must be addressed between experts in culture, non profit foundations, academia and government.

The first agenda are the problems of human rights, second the problems of autonomy or the granting of full rights to the people of Irian to determine their own destiny. The third agenda is the problem of independence for Irian.

This was the discussion with Abdul Gafur after the meeting conducted among the National Development for Irian Jaya and the

Council of Churches in Jakarta on Thursday. As is known, on the 10th of August the PGI went on a pastoral mission concurrently with the initiative to bring the team of National Development for Irian Jaya to see first hand the problems facing the people of the province.

The Team consists of the Chairman, Prof. Sudarso Sepater, Pastor Karel Phil Eran and a member the Rev. Dr. Jodo Wibowo (unreadable.....)

Minister Gafur, Joint team in the Parliament agreed with >>>> that a forum must be created including several experts in the community in cultural affairs, academia and government to examine the roots of these problems and to find ways and means to solve.

However, there are slight differences in the perception of dialogue which we have offered with the dialogue as proposed by the PGI. We, from the Parliament propose that the forum is conducted in the locality to involve all the leadership of Irian and upon obtaining its results, bring the resolutions to the central government. It does not matter what you name it, what is important is that we conduct the dialog, says Gafur, who is the Chairman in the Parliament for Irian Jaya Affairs.

In the meantime, the proposal for dialogue as offered by the PGI is a National Forum to include many other sectors and components of the general population. Thus the results could be clearer and maximized.

They also stated that the form and presentation of the dialogue is of lesser concern, whether conducted on local or national level.

If the dialogue begins at the local community level there may be many aspirations and appreciation by the local people to address the various problems they face.

JUST TREATMENT

In the meantime the Secretary >>>>>>, Rev. Dr. Karel Phil Eran affirmed the national dialogue proposal as presented by his group as having received positive response from the chairman of the Parliament, Abdul Gafur. As such the PGI shall follow up with a clearer agenda.

The National Dialogue on Irian Jaya shall be organized in coordination with and facilitated between the Parliament and PGI. The Dialogue shall be conducted free from any intimidation, threats and strategies.

The people of Irian must feel confident that they shall be treated justly in this national dialogue therefore they shall be represented by the Church, the cultural experts, students, the intellectuals, organizations, women's organizations, bureaucrats and historical experts such as >>>>>

In addition, by conducting a national dialogue this shall increase awareness and concern and create a psychological effect for the local people encouraging them to be brave enough to conduct dialogue amidst themselves, at the minimum to open up discussions regarding incidents and suffering as experienced by them.

It has been clarified that the PGI team has uncovered human rights violations of extremely serious nature for 35 years where innocent people have been killed, cruelly beaten, vanished, oppressed, intimidated and many women have been raped. Such practices have returned to Biak on the 6th of July.

The pastoral mission of the PGI to Irian Jaya was conducted as a show of solidarity and responsibility. PGI received reports from the GKI church (Dutch Reformed—Protestant) in IrJa with regard to these human rights violations which are extremely serious in the form of suffering and terror among the parishioners of the GKI and the Christian community particularly in Biak,

Sorong, Waimena, Nabire and the city which was overwhelmed by rioting and peaceful demonstration for a Free Papua on 7th July 1998.

The newspaper report states that Indonesia's President, B.J. Habibie, has agreed to a national dialogue of West Papua as soon as possible. The proposed dialogue, supported by Indonesian parliamentary leader Abdul Gafur and the Indonesian Council of Protestant Churches, would cover a three-part agenda including human rights problems, autonomy issues, and the issue of independence.

Mr. Speaker, this pronouncement by President Habibie is extremely encouraging news, and President Habibie should be commended for his leadership envisioned in addressing this long-festering wound in Indonesia.

As the United States Congress has spoken out forcibly on East Timor, Mr. Speaker, I am confident that our colleagues fully support President Habibie's call for establishment of this vital dialogue between West Papua and the Government of Indonesia.

To ensure that the dialogue proceeds in a credible and legitimate manner, however, we recognize that certain fundamental steps are absolutely necessary.

First, a dialogue must be structured to facilitate full and democratic participation, including representatives from all sectors of society in West Papua. This should include recognized and respected community leaders, church leaders, students, women's organizations, academics, West Papuans who participated in the United Nations sponsored act of free choice, which was actually an act of no choice, and historical and cultural experts.

Second, the Indonesian Government should terminate West Papuan status as a military operations area which allows martial law to be imposed in West Papua as well as in East Timor and Aceh. The military's involvement in West Papua's political and economic development should also be terminated, Mr. Speaker. Additionally, immediate steps should be taken to investigate and prosecute military personnel responsible for human rights violations throughout West Papua, New Guinea.

Last, Mr. Speaker, there must be increased transparency and openness in West Papua which can only be accomplished by allowing churches, non-governmental organizations, and independent international human rights organizations to monitor full access to all areas of the province.

In concluding, Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to join me in commending President Habibie for this courageous decision on West Papua, New Guinea and that he be urged to take the foregoing steps to ensure that a successful and productive dialogue take place as soon as possible.

And, Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege recently of meeting with the gentleman, Mr. John Kubiak, who is the

leader of the human rights organization in West Papua, New Guinea, who was recently here in Washington. And I am very, very hopeful that my colleagues here in the Congress and the American people will support this effort to allow, especially allow the people of West Papua, New Guinea to determine for themselves what should their future be and not be subjected as a colony of Indonesia as in our stance.

HOW DO WE DEAL RESPONSIBLY WITH THE SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUND?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. MINGE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by associating myself with the remarks of my colleague from Arkansas (Mr. BERRY) with respect to Social Security and budget policy tax-cut issues. I certainly feel that he has accurately identified a problem that we face in this country: How do we deal responsibly with the Social Security Trust Fund and our obligations or the obligations which will be due from that trust fund in the years ahead? Although all of us, I think, would agree that the tax cut proposal that is being considered or has been considered in the Committee on Ways and Means is a moderate proposal and that it distributes benefits equitably among the American people, the really difficult question is at what stage should we implement this proposal? Should we implement it when we borrow from the Social Security Trust Fund yet to balance the budget, or should we postpone the implementation of a proposal of that type until after we know that we no longer need to use the Social Security Trust Fund to balance the budget?

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I would like to, however, extend my comments this evening beyond the budget issues that are raised with respect to Social Security and move to a slightly different topic area. ***

We have many responsibilities here in Congress. Perhaps most significantly, we should not let those actions deter us from attempting to complete the work on the budget. The budget that this body and the body at the other end of the building would have agreed to is 5 months and 2 days past due.

Mr. Speaker, we have an awesome responsibility here to comply with the Budget Act, and we are not doing it. It is difficult to prepare and bring to the floor appropriations bills which fit within a budget that we have not yet adopted, or to identify the scale of tax cuts that we would like to work on when we have no budget with which to place those tax cuts in context. In fact, it appears that many of these efforts to bring bills to the floor, to discuss tax cuts are lonely efforts, because they are efforts that do not have within them that budget.

It reminds me of the claymation figure that was used in the 1950s, a little figure that one of my staff members found a replica of: Gumby. Poor Gumby. His friend was Pokey. They wanted company. These appropriations bills, this tax cut consideration needs a friend. It needs the Budget Act, or it needs the budget resolution, and the fact that we do not have a budget resolution makes me think that the old 1950s figures live again here in Congress in the 1990s.

Mr. Speaker, I challenge the leadership of this body and of the Senate to appoint a conference committee so that the budget resolutions that were adopted in the respective bodies can be reconciled, so that this body is acting responsibly, and so we know that we have complied with the laws that we ourselves have adopted and lay down the standards for responsible fiscal planning. We need a budget resolution for the 1999 fiscal year.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SNOWBARGER). The Chair must remind all Members to refrain from personal references to the President.

THE ARMS RACE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, we are in a race, and the participants in the race, along with the United States of America, are nations like North Korea, Iran, Iraq, Communist China, and to some degree, Pakistan and India. The other participants in this race seem to understand that it is a race because they are doing everything that they can to develop offensive missiles that have increasing capability and can go long distances, now almost to the point where this last shot that was fired over Japan by the North Koreans, the so-called Taepo Dong 1 missile, a 3-stage missile, had enough range to reach portions of the United States of America. That is the North Koreans now, years before the CIA ever thought that they would be this far, have now developed a missile that has ICBM capability. That means the capability to reach parts of the United States.

Now, on the other side of the race is the American effort to develop defenses against these missiles, and this American effort really started in 1983 when then President Ronald Reagan told the Nation that we were entering the age of missiles, and that we had to do something about it, and that rather than just have the ability to retaliate; that is, throw our missiles back at that enemy, whoever it might be, we needed to be able to develop the ability to shoot down incoming missiles.

Now, that lesson that Ronald Reagan gave us in 1983 was driven home in the